

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 12156

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TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR NANDAN DISCUSSES LOS CONFERENCE

1. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR CLINGAN AND SATYA NANDAN, FIJI AMBASSADOR TO COMMUNITY AND RAPPORTEUR OF COMMITTEE II, THE FOLLOWING POINTS WERE STRESSED BY NANDAN: (1) IN HIS VIEW A FRESH APPROACH TO COMMITTEE I WOULD BE REQUIRED. THIS APPROACH WOULD INCLUDE SEVERAL ELEMENTS. IN HIS VIEW IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THERE WERE TO BE AN INJECTION OF NEW PERSONNEL INTO THE FIRST COMMITTEE EFFORT. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT AGUILAR BE URGED BY THE US TO TAKE A "STATESMAN'S ROLE" IN THE COMMITTEE I EFFORT, SEEKING TO URGE THE TWO SIDES TO COME TOGETHER ON COMPROMISES AND DROP IDEOLOGICAL STANCES. HE FELT AGUILAR MIGHT BE PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE FOR THIS ROLE SINCE HE WAS (A) A LATIN; (B) INFLUENTIAL; AND (C) A NEW FACE ON THE C-I SCENE. FINALLY, HE SAID THAT FRESH IDEAS WERE NEEDED, NOT A REHASH OF OLD ONES, AND THAT DETAIL SHOULD AT THIS STAGE BE SET ASIDE IN FAVOR OF AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLE. MUCH OF THE DETAIL COULD, HE SAID, BE LEFT TO A CAREFULLY STRUCTURED COUNCIL WITH APPROPRIATE POWERS. WITH RESPECT TO THE KISSINGER PROPOSALS, HE SAID THAT THE "BALL WAS IN THE U.S. COURT" TO COME UP WITH MORE SPECIFICS. (2) HE SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING FOR CONSIDERATION: INSTEAD OF TWO SITES, EACH STATE WISHING TO MINE SHOULD SUGGEST FOUR SITES. TWO WOULD BE RESERVED FOR THE ENTERPRISE, ONE FOR
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PRIVATE EXPLOITATION, AND ONE FOR JOINT VENTURES.

CLINGAN POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS ASKING FOR A MAJOR CONCESSION. (3) NANDAN REFERRED TO A JANUARY ACP/EC "SEMINAR". IT IS TO BE, IN HIS ESTIMATION, A "TECHNICAL" SESSION TO REVIEW SEABED PROBLEMS AND TO HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS INVOLVED. AFTER PROBING, HE ADMITTED THAT THE MEETING WOULD NECESSARILY INVOLVE A POLITICAL ASPECT. HE THEN SAID IT WAS NECESSARY FOR COUNTRIES TO TALK IN THE ABSENCE OF RADICALS SUCH AS ALGERIA AND MEXICO. (4) ON COMMITTEE II WORK, HE FIRST EXPRESSED SOME DISAPPOINTMENT THAT AGUILAR WAS NOT TAKING AN AGGRESSIVE ROLE. HE FELT THAT WE WERE CLOSE TO A FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE ECONOMIC ZONE, ALTHOUGH CLINGAN WARNED HIM THAT WE HAVE A MAJOR CONCERN THAT MUST BE SATISFIED. ON STRAITS, HE URGED THE U.S. TO WORK WITH INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA TO TRY TO SATISFY THEM. HE FELT THAT INDOESIA'S BIGGEST PROBLEM WAS THE WIDTH OF THE SEALANES WHILE MALAYSIA COULD BE SATISFIED, PERHAPS OUTSIDE OF THE CONFERENCE, BY A SOLUTION TO HER POLLUTION CONERNS.

2. OVERALL HE WAS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE CONFERENCE ALTHOUGH FULLY COGNIZANT OF THE COMMITTEE I PROBLEMS. HE INQUIRED SEVERAL TIMES REGARDING EFFECT OF U.S. ELECTIONS AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS AND STRESSED NEED FOR U.S. TO PLAY VIGOROUS ROLE AT EARLY DATE. HINTON

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